

IN THE CLAIMS

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this response, which includes amendments to claims 1, 3, 10, 18, 20, 27, 35, 37, and 44.

1 1. (currently amended) A method to manage congestion in a network, the
2 method comprising:
3 determining a congestion status associated with a node in the network ; and
4 ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the congestion status to at least one other node in the
5 network.

1 2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining the congestion
2 status comprises:
3 measuring a node condition at the node, the node condition corresponding to the
4 congestion status.

1 3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~advertising~~
2 broadcasting the connection status comprises:
3 setting a transit flag, the transit flag being accessible to the at least one other node.

1 4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the node is one of a transit node
2 and a terminating node.

1 5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the node is a logical node in a
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1 6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the at least one other node is
2 one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical node
3 corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the network is an asynchronous
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the node is one of a private
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the transit flag is one of a PNNI
2 topology state parameter.

1 10. (currently amended) A method to manage congestion in a network, the
2 method comprising:

3 receiving a congestion status associated with a node in the network, the
4 congestion status corresponding to a measured node condition at the node and being
5 broadcast by the node; and

6 routing a call to the node based on the received congestion status.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein receiving the congestion status
2 comprises accessing a transit flag set by the node, the transit flag corresponding to the
3 congestion status.

1 12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the node is one of a transit
2 node and a terminating node.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the node is a logical node in a
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein routing the call to the node
2 comprises:

3 routing the call to the node if the node is a terminating node; and

4 routing the call to the node if the node is a transit node and the congestion status
5 indicates that the node is not congested.

1 15. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the network is an
2 asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the node is one of a private
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the transit flag is one of a
2 PNNI topology state parameter.

1 18. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:
2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein for
3 managing congestion in a network, the computer program product having:
4 computer readable program code for determining a congestion status associated
5 with a node in the network ; and
6 computer readable program code for ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the congestion
7 status to at least one other node in the network.

1 19. (original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the
2 computer readable program code for determining the congestion status comprises:
3 computer readable program code for measuring a node condition at the node, the
4 node condition corresponding to the congestion status.

1 20. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein
2 the computer readable program code for ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the connection status
3 comprises:
4 computer readable program code for setting a transit flag, the transit flag being
5 accessible to the at least one other node.

1 21. (original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the node is
2 one of a transit node and a terminating node.

1 22. (original) The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the node is
2 a logical node in a hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group
3 of nodes.

1 23. (original) The computer program product of claim 22 wherein the at least
2 one other node is one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical
3 node corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1 24. (original) The computer program product of claim 23 wherein the
2 network is an asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 25. (original) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein the node is
2 one of a private network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 26. (original) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein the transit
2 flag is one of a PNNI topology state parameter.

1 27. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:
2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein for
3 managing congestion in a network, the computer program product having:
4 computer readable program code for receiving a congestion status associated with
5 a node in the network, the congestion status corresponding to a measured node condition
6 at the node and being broadcast by the node; and
7 computer readable program code for routing a call to the node based on the
8 received congestion status.

1 28. (original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the
2 computer readable program code for receiving the congestion status comprises computer
3 readable program code for accessing a transit flag set by the node, the transit flag
4 corresponding to the congestion status.

1 29. (original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the node is
2 one of a transit node and a terminating node.

1 30. (original) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the node is
2 a logical node in a hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group
3 of nodes.

1 31. (original) The computer program product of claim 30 wherein the
2 computer readable program code for routing the call to the node comprises:
3 computer readable program code for routing the call to the node if the node is a
4 terminating node; and
5 computer readable program code for routing the call to the node if the node is a
6 transit node and the congestion status indicates that the node is not congested.

1 32. (original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the
2 network is an asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 33. (original) The computer program product of claim 32 wherein the node is
2 one of a private network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 34. (original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein the transit
2 flag is one of a PNNI topology state parameter.

1 35. (currently amended) A system interfacing to a network comprising:
2 a processor coupled to the network; and
3 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing program code for
4 managing congestion in the network, the program code when executed causing the
5 processor to:
6 determine a congestion status associated with a node in the network, and
7 ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the congestion status to at least one other node in the
8 network.

1 36. The system of claim 35 wherein the program code causing the processor to
2 determine the congestion status causes the processor to:

3 measure a node condition at the node, the node condition corresponding to the
4 congestion status.

1 37. (currently amended) The system of claim 35 wherein the program code
2 causing the processor to ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the connection status causes the
3 processor to:
4 set a transit flag, the transit flag being accessible to the at least one other node.

1 38. (original) The system of claim 35 wherein the node is one of a transit
2 node and a terminating node.

1 39. (original) The system of claim 38 wherein the node is a logical node in a
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1 40. (original) The system of claim 39 wherein the at least one other node is
2 one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical node
3 corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1 41. (original) The system of claim 40 wherein the network is an asynchronous
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 42. (original) The system of claim 41 wherein the node is one of a private
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 43. (original) The system of claim 42 wherein the transit flag is one of a
2 PNNI topology state parameter.

1 44. (currently amended) A system interfacing to a network comprising:
2 a processor coupled to the network; and
3 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing program code for
4 managing congestion in the network, the program code when executed causing the
5 processor to:

6 receive a congestion status associated with a node in the network, the congestion
7 status corresponding to a measured node condition at the node and being broadcast by the
8 node, and

9 route a call to the node based on the received congestion status.

1 45. (original) The system of claim 44 wherein the program code causing the
2 processor to receive the congestion status causes the processor to access a transit flag set
3 by the node, the transit flag corresponding to the congestion status.

1 46. (original) The system of claim 45 wherein the node is one of a transit
2 node and a terminating node.

1 47. (original) The system of claim 46 wherein the node is a logical node in a
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1 48. (original) The system of claim 47 wherein the program code causing the
2 processor to route the call to the node causes the processor to:
3 route the call to the node if the node is a terminating node; and
4 route the call to the node if the node is a transit node and the congestion status
5 indicates that the node is not congested.

1 49. (original) The system of claim 45 wherein the network is an asynchronous
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 50. (original) The system of claim 49 wherein the node is one of a private
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 51. (original) The system of claim 50 wherein the transit flag is one of a
2 PNNI topology state parameter.